

EDITORIALS

A Different Picture

The city's offer to exchange property on the new civic center site for a site now owned by the State of California at Cravens and Engracia in the hopes that the downtown site could be reserved for parking and that the civic center facilities could include city, county, and state offices met with a sharp rebuff last week in a letter originating with William A. Burkett, director of employment for the State. His reasoning, however, which is probably based on reports from the staff of the local Department of Employment office, is subject to challenge. On their way to Sacramento today to challenge that reasoning is Mayor Albert Isen and City Manager George Stevens.

In citing the problems brought up by the city's offer, Director Burkett listed these matters:

1. Authorization for the trade would have to come from the State Department of Finance and a cash consideration of something over \$10,000 would be due the State according to valuation differences between the two parcels of land.

Valuations of property are tricky things and subject to intended use of the property. In the case of the Cravens and Engracia property, now owned by the State, the greatest value of the land lies in continued use as at present as a parking area for downtown business establishments. On the other hand, value of the civic center site to the people of the area and the people of the State of California could be far greater than the monetary price arbitrarily fixed without consideration to the uses of the land involved.

2. Uncertain legality of the exchange might delay construction of the building as much as a year or more beyond the date which it could normally be expected to be completed.

We'll concede that Mr. Burkett may have a point here. He knows the intricacies of State government better than we and is a position to know the pitfalls of changing plans. We can't see from here, however, why plans for one area cannot as easily be adapted to another without too much delay.

3. The local office operations are conducted under bank payment system whereby certificates can be cashed only in a certain bank. In the new civic center, it would mean that persons receiving benefits would be required to go to the office then return to the bank with the certificates.

With the limited parking facilities now available in Torrance, convenience to a bank would be periled further by the erection of a building on one of the city's finest lots—which incidentally is within a block of a bank. It is our observation that a negligible number of claimants walk to the office—most arrive from their homes by auto. A short drive to the bank would be no less convenient than being forced to park away from the downtown area and walk several blocks to cash the certificates. The more construction that is permitted in the downtown area, the more inconvenient will be the matter of parking in the area to be visited.

4. Department policy is to locate offices near primary business section of community served in order to cause least inconvenience due to transportation to workers and the employers it serves. Civic center is remote from population center.

We think Mr. Burkett has been grossly misinformed on the matter of population centers—both present and future. The present office is located within a few blocks of the city's eastern perimeter and it is about as far away from the beach cities it serves as it would be possible to put it. Moving the office to the site at Cravens and Engracia would move it four blocks closer to the population center, but would still leave it on the perimeter. The new civic center site is not only in the geographic center of Torrance, but is believed to be near the future center of an area which will contain several hundred thousand if not a million persons.

5. The local office also serves the communities of Lomita and Gardena, each of which is now located approximately four miles from the present office. Change to the civic center would add two miles.

What Mr. Burkett did not say, however, was that the office also served a far greater area west of Torrance which includes such cities as Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, and Manhattan Beach and that moving the office to the civic center would bring it two miles closer to thousands of other persons who have occasion to use its facilities.

6. Although the proposed site offered within the civic center may be within the geographic center of Torrance, it is not located in or near the center of population.

Again, we think Mr. Burkett has been grossly misinformed. One builder alone is currently engaged in a housing program which will place several thousand homes just a mile west of the proposed center, and a major portion of Torrance's home construction—which means population—has been and will be in the area adjacent to the civic center and west of it. It is our opinion that the civic center may well be east of the center of population five years hence.

We are certain that our mayor and city manager can be depended on to give an unbiased picture of the Torrance area to officials in Sacramento today. We are certain, also, that they have not seen this picture before.

Insulted Neighbor



It's Your Country

By JOHN W. BECK

UN Costs More Than Known SECRET: Does it ever strike you as odd that the American people are told so little about the monetary cost of United States participation in the United Nations? It is a subject that you do not see discussed in any detail in newspapers or magazines, nor do you hear it on radio or television. Indeed, if anybody knows the full cost, it is the government's best kept secret.

The State Department, in its cleverly and speciously written UN propaganda brochures, creates the impression that the cost to the U.S. is infinitesimal, "less than 10 cents per year for every American," or "about 16 cents" if you count the specialized agencies; or "will still not exceed 55 cents per person per year" if you insist upon counting U.S. voluntary contributions.

Why not count the specialized agencies and the voluntary contributions? They all come out of the pocket of the American taxpayer, with nothing "voluntary" about it. And why state it on a per capita basis when the taxes out of which it is paid are confiscated from the American people on the basis of income?

DECEPTION. A further example of the deception that is being practiced by UN spokesmen is furnished by an interview with Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., in which he was questioned concerning costs of the UN. Said Mr. Lodge: "We contribute 13 million dollars, and that's a third. The budget is 39 million." (U. S. News & World Report, Nov. 26, 1954).

In the above statement Mr. Lodge not only strayed far from the truth, he even contradicted himself. In a Department of State publication of January 28, 1954, entitled "What the United Nations Means to the United States," Mr. Lodge stated that our annual contribution to the United Nations was 25 million dollars.

He also contradicted State Department publication 5554 of August, 1954, entitled "The United Nations, An Appraisal for 1954," which set the total cost of U. S. participation in the UN at approximately \$80 millions a year. This, incidentally, is the same State Department publication that gives us the pitch of "less than 10 cents per year for every American."

CONFUSION: Where in this welter of deception and confusion is there a grain of truth? Apparently nowhere. All of the above figures are in conflict with those transmitted by the Department of State on May 29, 1954, to the House of Representatives, as published by the Government Printing Office in House Document No. 410, 83rd Congress, 2nd Session, entitled "United States Contributions to International Organizations" for the fiscal year 1953 (which ended June 30, 1954).

House Document No. 410 is, so far as I know, the latest official publication on U.S. contributions to international organizations that is available to the public. But you have to know that it is in existence and then ask for it in order to get it. Its contents are not likely to be voluntarily revealed to you either by the government or through regular news channels.

The figures contained in this document are at variance with claims made by State Department booklets and by UN spokesmen. For example, in fiscal year 1953 the United States (which means U.S. taxpayers) was assessed \$25,351,073 by the UN and its agencies. In addition, our government further assessed us \$71,588,000 for "voluntary" contributions to UN agencies. That makes a total for fiscal 1953 of \$96,939,073, a figure which I am unable to reconcile with any of the UN cost claims made by Mr. Lodge or State Department booklets.

NOTE THE FULL STORY:

But that is not all. While figures revealed in House Document No. 410 undoubtedly are the most accurate available, they by no means tell the whole story. They do not include the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development or the International Monetary Fund, both of which are under the wide-spread wings of the UN. Nor do they include the UN's Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization, an outfit which handles business for the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

Society's snobby upper crust, According to those who know; Turns out to be a bunch of crums Held in place by dough.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: Ed Sullivan after he had hired Marian Marlowe, freshly fired from the Arthur Godfrey show: "This is nothing against Godfrey—if they fired him, I'd try to sign him up too."

Have you noticed it too? The new automobiles are keeping up with motorcycles when they roar away from a stop signals. These new high compression engines have certainly narrowed the "get-away margin" between the two-wheelers and the family auto.

Heard of a new guessing game, the other day. It may never be as popular as Scrabble, but here it is for what it's worth: Three men walk into a room with a quart of booze apiece. After each drinks his quart, one of the men gets up and leaves. Idea of the game is for the other two to try to figure out which man left.

Mr. Reid Bundy Editor Torrance Herald Torrance, Calif. Dear Reid:

Already I am being misquoted in your column "The Squirrel Cage." Concealing "troubles" are many, the correct, unexpurgated version is as follows: "Women's faults are many Men have only two: Everything they say And everything they do." Your reporting was correct when I said "nothing was ever true" and you said, "and, he is soooooo right." Very truly yours, Albert Isen

Kids' Fear of Needle Salk Vaccine Problem

By Wally Burke City News Service

Fear of the needle. That is the toughest obstacle facing doctor-nurse teams who are set to start Salk Vaccine against paralytic polio today.

The needle has been a bugaboo and a blessing since the first smallpox vaccination in the U.S. in 1721.

It's a blessing to parents providing they aren't on the receiving end.

To kids it's a bugaboo and they aren't bashful about saying so, according to Dr. John M. Chapman, director of medical services for the Los Angeles City Health Department. He is in charge of the polio vaccine program.

Last year 230,721 persons received immunization shots against diphtheria, tetanus, smallpox, rabies, typhoid and other diseases.

Persons Afraid No psychology has yet been developed to keep persons from whimpering or wincing, Dr. Chapman said. "The best psychology which is used in school immunizations is the "line-up" procedure.

"When children are immunized in a group there is less emotional reaction, we have learned," Dr. Chapman said. School teachers lay the ground work by classroom education before immunizing teams move into schools.

"Pupils are told that the shots will prevent sicknesses and will only hurt for a second and after that they will be all right," he said. "The psychology frequently works, but not on the majority as there is always a plentiful share of yelps."

Double Duty Shots The work of polio vaccine immunizing teams is in for double-duty, he said, because two of the three shots must be given in two successive weeks.

To make it easier for first and second grade school children, Dr. Chapman advised parents to prepare their youngsters for the shots, which will be given in the arm, by briefing them in advance.

He said the shots will be administered in the same way as recent diphtheria immunizations given to 90,000 school

children in the past six months. He said that nearly 100 per cent of the parents of early graders have endorsed the Salk Vaccine program.

For the upcoming inoculations, 47,088 new needles have been purchased according to Al Torribo, City Health Information officer.

He said that he told his young daughter, Jo Anne, who recently received a diphtheria shot, that she would soon have to take polio vaccine shots. "Don't want them," she yelped. "I'll stay home from school that day."

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WANTED

ALIVE



THIS BOY is wanted at home to run errands -- to put away the toys he left in the driveway -- and for his weird, wonderful sense of humor. He may be carrying a sling-shot, some bubble gum, a skate key, and a rabbit's foot.

THIS GIRL is wanted at home to care for her dolls, the kittens and to help mother do her shopping. She may be carrying a yellow purse, some jacks, a rag doll and her hair may be tied with a red ribbon.

They are both wanted in school for questioning in connection with the proper spelling of Cincinnati. MOST OF ALL THEY ARE WANTED FOR LOVE.

They are carefree and harmless, but, unfortunately, they are very easily harmed. Let them get to school and home again without an accident.

Please drive with EXTRA CAUTION - Slow down Take it Easy! AUTOMOBILE • TRUCK • FIRE • LIFE ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS

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LAW IN ACTION

PROBATION Like the eraser on your pencil, the law too allows for human error. Johnny was a high-spirited 18-year-old. He flunked his first high school exam and quit school. From then on he worked at odd jobs. He had a clean record. Then one night, with two casual acquaintances, he broke into a service station. He helped steal \$35 and a few car accessories. He had not wanted to commit the burglary, but was goaded into it by his companions. Later he found out one of them had a long police record. Johnny was arrested. He pleaded guilty, and threw himself on the mercy of the court. The court put Johnny on probation for three years. During this time he must strictly obey regulations made by the probation officer. Also, he must pay back the service station owner for money and probation. But he is out of jail and free to live a fairly normal life. If Johnny lives up to the terms of the probation, he can go back into court in three years and ask that it dismiss the burglary charge against him. In doing this, the court will, in effect, be giving Johnny's record clean. He can live a useful life without a criminal record. But if Johnny breaks the probation rules, he can be picked up and called before the judge again and placed in custody of the law. The wise use of this right of probation has helped to make good citizens of many young men and women who happened to make one serious mistake. NOTE: The State Bar of California offers this column for your information so that you may know more about how to act under our laws.